



**Arizona Juvenile Justice Commission
Children's Justice Committee
Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family
1700 West Washington Street, Suite 230, PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85007**

A general meeting of the Arizona Juvenile Justice Commission (AJJC) Children's Justice Committee was convened on May 29, 2019, at the Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family, 1700 West Washington Street, Suite 230, Phoenix, Arizona, 85007, notice having been duly given.

Members Present (8)	
Christina Schopen , Co-Chair	Leslie Quinn
Jeff Hood	Donald Walker
Marcela Morales	Rachel Mitchell
Shefali Gandhi	Cindi Nannetti
Staff/Guests Present (4)	Members Absent (4)
Steve Selover , GOYFF	James Molina , Co-Chair
Rebecca Chesley , GOYFF	Nicole Schuren
Michelle Bedinghaus , Mercy Maricopa	Jane Kallal
Myriah Mhoon , New Life Center	Shawn Cox

Call to Order

- **Ms. Christina Schopen**, Co-Chair, called the meeting to order at 2:41 p.m. with eight members and four staff and guests present.

Introductions

- **Ms. Schopen**, Co-Chair, asked members and staff to introduce themselves.

Approval of Minutes

- **Ms. Schopen**, Co-Chair, requested a motion to approve the April 3, 2019, meeting minutes.
 - **Dr. Leslie Quinn** motioned to approve the minutes as drafted.
 - **Ms. Rachel Mitchell** seconded the motion.
- The motion passed with no dissenting votes.

Children's Justice Act Grant Update

- **Ms. Rebecca Chesley** provided an update on the Children's Justice Act (CJA) federal application stating the application will be ready to submit May 31, and it will be budgeted for the amount proposed in the previous funding application.
- **Ms. Chesley** stated current CJA funded subgrantees are in the third year of a three-year cycle, and the request for grant applications (RFGA) will likely be released in October 2019.
- **Ms. Chesley** advised that two subgrantees, Childhelp and Southern Arizona Family Advocacy Center, have each recently hired a children's justice coordinator.
- **Ms. Chesley** stated Childhelp is updating their online Mandatory Reporter Training to allow for real-time questions and answers in order to provide an opportunity to clarify content when needed.

- **Ms. Chesley** finished her report by stating the Child and Family Services Plan is expected to be completed in June by the Department of Child Safety. **Ms. Chesley** advised she will send this report to the committee members once she has access to it.

Dedicated Forensic Interviewer Peer Review

- **Ms. Schopen**, Co-Chair, advised the first online dedicated forensic interviewer (DFI) peer review will be held this Friday. Several volunteers will be participating, and Cochise County will host the event.
- **Ms. Schopen** stated it is expected the peer reviews will occur monthly to give the field many opportunities to share resources and the most current best practices.
- **Ms. Schopen** advised funding for this project comes from New Life Center, a non-profit shelter that serves victims of domestic violence and sexual assault.
- **Ms. Myriah Mhoon**, CEO of New Life Center, provided a brief overview of the organization and its mission to help victims and families by engaging with many system stakeholders to provide a holistic approach to addressing trauma and safety.
- **Ms. Mhoon** expressed support for the DFI peer review by stating she is happy her organization can help fund the program.
- **Ms. Cindi Nannetti** affirmed the importance of the project by stating the ongoing training will only boost the credibility of the DFI in court and increase safety for victims making their way through the court process.
- **Dr. Quinn** asked whether peer review was a mandatory requirement. **Ms. Schopen** stated that while it is strongly recommended, it is not required DFIs participate in peer reviews.
- **Dr. Shefali Gandhi** asked how providers can sign up to participate. **Ms. Schopen** identified herself as the point of contact for those who are interested; however, she stressed the program is intended for DFIs only to ensure the feedback received is provided by their counterparts in the field. **Ms. Schopen** also emphasized priority is given to specialists from rural areas since opportunities for participating in training events are much fewer in non-urban communities. **Ms. Schopen** advised, however, that DFIs in Phoenix and Tucson are welcome to reach out to her if they are interested in participating.

Trauma-Informed Care Reference Document

- **Ms. Schopen**, Chair, and **Mr. Steve Selover** discussed the concept of a reference document to help inform people on trauma and recommended trauma-informed interventions, with an emphasis on targeting those who have limited knowledge of the subject.
- **Ms. Schopen** proposed a future working meeting where members attend in person to put forth their preferred articles that may be used to inform the document, followed by a process of including and excluding what information will be used to create the final product.
- **Ms. Schopen** asked members to send **Mr. Selover** their highlighted documents, which will be distributed for reference at the next meeting.
- **Dr. Gandhi** referenced a document created by Childhelp that uses simple language to help inform parents on various recommended treatment modalities for children, and suggested that this may be similar to the committee's objective. **Dr. Gandhi** advised she would share it at the next meeting.
- **Mr. Jeff Hood** asked **Ms. Schopen** to identify the intended audience. **Ms. Schopen** replied the document will be intended for the community-at-large, in addition to system stakeholders serving on commissions who may find this information helpful in their work.
- **Mr. Hood** followed up by asking what the plan is for distribution. **Ms. Schopen** stated posting it on the commission website is one method; however, other platforms will be considered based on the committee members' input.

Next Meeting Date

- Committee members agreed on July 9 as the next meeting date. **Ms. Schopen** also asked members to send **Mr. Selover** their articles by June 28.

Call to the Public

- **Ms. Schopen**, Co-Chair, made a call to the public. There was no response to the call.

Adjournment

- **Ms. Schopen**, Co-Chair, requested a motion to adjourn.
 - **Ms. Nannetti** moved to adjourn the meeting.
 - **Ms. Mitchell** seconded the motion.
- The motion passed with no dissenting votes. The meeting was adjourned at 3:18 p.m.

Dated May 30, 2019
Children's Justice Committee
Submitted By: Steve Selover, GOYFF Program Administrator